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TO: Examiner Wollenberger	FROM: Douglas H. Siegel
COMPANY: USPTO	DATE: 9/30/2009
FAX NUMBER: 571-273-8144	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 6
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☐ URGENT ☒ FOR REVIEW ☐ PLEASE COMMENT ☐ PLEASE REPLY ☐ PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

Examiner Wollenberger:

Further to our interview of September 16, 2009, and in anticipation of our interview scheduled for October 6, 2009, at 10:30, I have attached a copy of the proposed claims for your review. Thank you.

Applicant : Nariyoshi Shinomiya et al.
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DRAFT PROPOSED AMENDED CLAIMS – okay to scan [do not enter]

1. (*Canceled*)

2. (*Currently amended*) The RNAi molecule of claim 41 that is a single stranded siRNA that forms a hairpin structure.

3. (*Currently amended*) The RNAi molecule of claim 41 that is a double stranded siRNA.

4. (*Currently amended*) An interfering RNA (RNAi) molecule that comprises ~~The RNAi molecule of claim 1 that (i) comprises, or (ii) hybridizes to a Met target sequence that comprises, a sequence selected from the group consisting of: (a) SEQ ID NO:9; (b) SEQ ID NO:10; (c) SEQ ID NO:11; (d) SEQ ID NO:12; (e) SEQ ID NO:13; (f) SEQ ID NO:14; (g)~~ SEQ ID NO:15; ~~(h) SEQ ID NO:16; (i) SEQ ID NO:17; and (j) SEQ ID NO:18~~.

5-7. (*Canceled*)

8. (*Currently amended*) A DNA molecule encoding the RNAi molecule of claim 41.

9. (*Currently Amended*) An expression construct comprising DNA that encodes the RNAi molecule of claim ~~4~~ operatively linked to a promoter that drives the expression of said RNAi molecule in a c-*met*-expressing cell.

10. (*Original*) An expression construct comprising the DNA molecule of claim 8.

11. (*Currently Amended*) The expression construct of claim 9, wherein a promoter is one that drives the expression of said RNAi molecule in a c-*met*-expressing tumor or cancer cell.

12. (*Previously presented*) The expression construct of claim 11 wherein the promoter is a polIII promoter.

13. (*Original*) The expression construct of claim 12 wherein the polIII promoter is a U6 promoter.

14. (*Previously presented*) A viral vector comprising the expression construct of claim 9.

15. (*Original*) The viral vector of claim 14 that is a transient expression vector.

16. (*Currently amended*) The viral vector of claim 14 ~~13~~ that is a stable expression vector.

17. (*Previously presented*) The viral vector of claim 14 that is an adenoviral vector.

18. (*Original*) The adenoviral vector of claim 17 that is an Ad5 viral vector.

19. (*Original*) The Ad5 viral vector of claim 18 selected from the group consisting of: (a) si-mMet-Ad5^{57}; (b) si-mMet-Ad5^{60}; (c) si-mMet-Ad5^{110}; (d) si-mMet-Ad5^{178}; (e) si-hMet-Ad5^{16}; (f) si-hMet-Ad5^{62}; (g) si-hMet-Ad5^{221}; (h) si-dMet-Ad5^{111}; (i) si-dMet-Ad5^{197}; and (j) si-dMet-Ad5^{223}.

20. (*Original*) The Ad5 viral vector of claim 19 wherein the vector is si-hMet-Ad5^{16}, si-hMet-Ad5^{62}; or si-hMet-Ad5^{221}.

21-37. (*Canceled*)

38. (*Previously presented*) A method of treating a c-*met*$^{+}$ tumor or cancer in a subject, comprising administering to the subject by an effective route, an amount of the viral vector of claim 14 effective for inhibiting expression of c-*met* and thereby (i) inhibiting the growth, invasion or metastasis of cells of said tumor or cancer, or (ii) killing said

tumor or cancer cells.

39-47. (*Canceled*)

48. (*Previously presented*) The method of claim 38 wherein the tumor or cancer is glioblastoma, prostate or gastric.

49. (*Previously presented*) A method of treating a c-*met*$^+$ tumor or cancer in a subject, comprising administering to the subject by an effective route, an amount of the viral vector of claim 19 effective for inhibiting expression of c-*met* and thereby (i) inhibiting the growth, invasion or metastasis of cells of said tumor or cancer, or (ii) killing said tumor or cancer cells.

50. (*Previously presented*) The method of claim 49 wherein the tumor or cancer is glioblastoma, prostate or gastric.

51. (*New*) A method of treating a human subject in need of treatment for a c-*met*$^+$ tumor or cancer comprising administering to the subject a viral vector comprising DNA that encodes an interfering RNA (RNAi) molecule, which DNA is operatively linked to a promoter that drives the expression of the RNAi molecule in a c-*met*-expressing cell, wherein the RNAi molecule has a sequence that is sufficiently complementary to a

sequence of mRNA encoded by human c-*met* (SEQ ID NO:1) so that expression of the RNAi molecule in a cell that normally expresses c-*met* results in diminution or loss of expression of the mRNA.